CHAPTER NO. 947

HOUSE BILL NO. 3143

By Representative DuBois

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 3496

By Senators Ketron, Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 4 and Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to parenting plans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

- SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-411, is amended by designating the current language as subsection (a) and by adding the following language as subsection (b):
 - (b) The juvenile court may incorporate any part of the parenting plan process in any matter that the court deems appropriate.
- SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-413(b)(3), is amended by deleting the language "with divorce jurisdiction" and by substituting instead the language "utilizing any part of the parenting plan process".
- SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-413(b)(3), is further amended by deleting the language "and post-divorce" and by substituting instead the language ", post-divorce, and other child custody".
- SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-411, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:
 - () Nothing in this part shall require the department of children's services, acting in any capacity, to:
 - (1) Be bound in any manner by a permanent parenting plan;
 - (2) Participate in mediation or dispute resolution in relation to any permanent parenting plan; or
 - (3) Facilitate the development, modification, or presentation of any permanent or temporary parenting plan to a court.
- SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 25, 2006

DIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

> JOHN S. WILDER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 20th day of June 2006

PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR